

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 15 and 25 are amended.
2. Claims 15-18, 20, 23 and 25-26 are not anticipated by Mukojima under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claim 15 now recites that the filtering arrangement is enabled to model that the at least one sound source radiates a different sound to the reference direction than to a direction that deviates from the reference direction. Claim 15 also recites that a signal that represents sound propagating from the sound source in the reference direction is filtered to produce a signal that represents sound propagating from the sound source in the direction that deviates from the reference direction. These are not disclosed or suggested by Mukojima.

Mukojima models the “anisotropy” of the human head as the listener. The listener experiences a similar sound in a different way when the position of a sound source with respect to the listener is changed. However, what Mukojima does not do is model anisotropy of a sound source, or model that the sound source radiates different sounds to different directions.

As recited by Applicant in claim 1, the parameter enables the filter arrangement to “model” that the sound source radiates a different sound to the reference direction than to a direction that deviates from the reference. Thus, Applicant’s claims are directed to anisotropy of the sound source while Mukojima relates to modeling the anisotropy of the listener.

For example, Mukojima states that it is constructed to position a sound image of a virtual sound source relative to a listener. (Col. 6, lines 18-21). Acoustic directions are calculated from the virtual sound source to the ears of the listener. (Col. 3, lines 17-23). However, Mukojima does not disclose or suggest establishing a direction dependent filtering arrangement where a signal that represents sound propagating

from a sound source in a direction that deviates from a reference direction, is produced by filtering a signal that represents sound propagating from the sound source in the reference direction. Col. 6, line 18 to Col. 7, line 16, referenced to by the Examiner, related to positioning a sound image of a virtual sound source relative to a listener in a virtual sound field. A source point is designated and leftward and rightward acoustic directions from the source point to the listener are computed. (Col. 6, lines 18-39).

The sound image of the virtual sound source is directed to the listener in an azimuth direction of the three-dimensional space. (Col. 7, lines 7-10). An elevation component of the acoustic direction can also be calculated. (Col. 7, lines 9-16).

However, what is not disclosed here or elsewhere in Mukojima is producing a signal that represents sound propagating from a sound source in a direction that deviates from the reference direction, as recited by Applicant in claim 1.

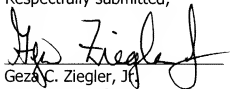
Furthermore, Mukojima does not disclose or suggest establishing a direction dependent filtering arrangement that is able to model that a sound source radiates a different sound to a reference direction than to a direction that deviates from the reference direction, as cited by Applicant in claim 1.

Claim 25 is amended to include similar limitations and should also be allowable. Claims 16-24 and 26-28 should be allowable at least by reason of their respective dependencies.

3. Claims 27-28 are not unpatentable over Mukojima under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for the reasons stated above.
4. Claim 24 is not unpatentable over Mukojima in view of Jot for the reasons stated above.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$790 for filing a Request for Continued Examination along with any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

21 May 2007
Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically on the date indicated below and addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 21 May 2007

Signature: Natalie Ivanoff

Natalie Ivanoff
Person Making Deposit